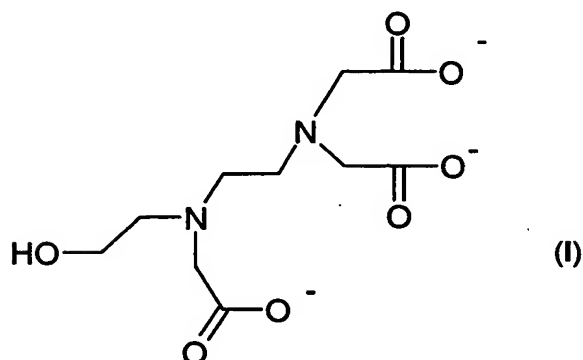


**Abstract**

The invention pertains to an aqueous solution of a sodium salt  $x\text{Na}^+ y\text{H}^+$  of the chelating compound of formula I:

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wherein  $x = 2.1 - 2.7$ ,  $y = 0.9 - 0.3$ , and  $x + y = 3$ . The invention further pertains to a container comprising at least 0.5 kg of said aqueous solution and to a method of preparing an aqueous solution comprising at least 45wt% of the sodium salt  $x\text{Na}^+ y\text{H}^+$  of the chelating compound of formula I from  $\text{Na}_3\text{-HEDTA}$ , comprising the steps of electrodialysing an aqueous solution containing less than 42 wt% of  $\text{Na}_3\text{-HEDTA}$  using a bipolar membrane, thereby converting the trisodium salt solution to the solution of the sodium salt of formula I with  $x = 2.1 - 2.7$ ,  $y = 0.9 - 0.3$ , and  $x + y = 3$ .

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